

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000



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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS
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SUBJECT: Training Standards for DoD Personnel on Sexual Assault Prevention & Response (JTF-SAPR-007)

DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

This directive-type memorandum establishes Department of Defense (DoD) policy for providing the minimum training required for the prevention and response to sexual assaults, as required by Section 577(b) (3), (4), and (6) of the Ronald W. Reagan National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2005, P. L. 108-375, October 28, 2004, which is part of DoD's comprehensive policy on the prevention and response to sexual assaults involving members of the Armed Forces.

The policy objective is to establish the minimum baseline training requirements for members of the Armed Forces. Sexual assaults are detrimental to mission readiness. It is essential that Service members understand what constitutes a sexual assault, how to avoid becoming a victim, and to be aware of the steps to take if victimized. The standard DoD definition of sexual assault will be used in all training programs.

Effective immediately, the Military Services shall implement the following required training:

• Upon release of new DoD policy and standards, conduct initial Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training of all Service members.



- Provide Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training during all initial
 entry training, to include initial officer training programs. The focus of this
 training is to ensure that service members have a working knowledge of what
 constitutes a sexual assault, why it is a crime, and the meaning of consent.
 Additionally, members should understand the full range of reporting options
 available to them.
- Conduct an annual sexual assault awareness training update. The Care for Victims of Sexual Assault Task Force Report emphasized that training needs are not satisfied by simply using a lecture and Power Point presentation. To help Service members to understand the often complex nature of sexual assaults in the military, this training will be scenario based, using real-life situations to demonstrate the entire cycle of reporting, response, and accountability procedures. Training should include total group participation.
- Incorporate Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training into all leadership development and Professional Military Education (PME) programs. PME is designed to develop our leaders at all ranks. It is critical that DoD adopt policies, programs, and procedures to address the sexual assault issue, but these steps alone are not enough to put an end to the sexual assault problem in the military. Constant emphasis is required, accompanied with the clear, immutable commitment of leaders and commanders at all levels. PME offers a venue to challenge in-grained assumptions, discuss leadership's responsibility to establish a climate that proscribes sexual assault and equips leaders with the tools to do this.

Please immediately identify an office of primary responsibility for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response training. All Military Services shall submit a copy of their implementing guidance that conforms to the requirements of this policy not later than February 1, 2005. My POC for this action is Brigadier General K.C. McClain, Commander, Joint Task Force for Sexual Assault Prevention and Response.

This guidance establishes DoD policy on sexual assault matters. This memorandum is effective immediately. This and other sexual assault policies will be consolidated in a DoD issuance within 180 days.

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